THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHAR RAO): (a) and (b) Review/updation of Labour Laws is an ongoing process. Changes in Labour Laws are effected after detailed consultations with the social partners with a view to harmonize the interests of all Stakeholders.

A proposal to amend Section 66 of the Factories Act, 1948 to provide flexibility for employment of women workers to work in the night shifts in factories is being examined. However, there is no proposal, at present, to amend the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947.

Survey of MNCs

2551. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Business Processes Outsourcing Centres, Call Centres, etc., are providing vast job opportunities;

(b) if so, whether Government have made any survey of MNCs that provide that job opportunities; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to povide training to the unemployed youth to prepare them to take up such job opportunities?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per a Study carried out by National Association of Software and Service Companies (NASSCOM), Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) and Information Technology Enabled Services (ITES) are providing job opportunities in the fields of Customer Care, Administrative and Financial Services, amongst others.

(c) Under the National Vocational Training System, skill training is being imparted in 98 trades, both engineering and non-engineering, through a network of 5068 Industrial Training Institutes/centres. Training in ITES/ BPO is also open to the private sector and there are over 1000 training institutions imparling such education and training. Also, the DOEACC society has launched a BPO-ITES training programme in the North-Eastern region of the country.